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SUBJECT Admiral Inman Resigns

CHRISTOPHER GLENN: The search for new leadership for the Central Intelligence Agency is making progress in Washington.

Correspondent Robert Schakne reports.

ROBERT SCHAKNE: Members of the Senate Intelligence Committee who had publicly worried about trusting the CIA without Admiral Bobby Inman today, for the most part, are praising his proposed replacement, John McMahon, a 30-year CIA veteran.

Republican Senator Richard Lugar said he had held two long discussions over the weekend with CIA Director William Casey and that he was now satisfied with the choice of McMahon. Last Friday Lugar had called a news conference to protest the Administration's failure to consult the Intelligence Committee about the Inman resignation.

Joining Lugar today in supporting the McMahon nomination were two other influential members of the Intelligence Committee, Senator Daniel Moynihan, who called the selection the only acceptable one, and Senator Henry Jackson.

Some members said, however, that confirmation of McMahon would not be pro forma. Among other things, there is said to be some concern about having two civilians in the top CIA jobs. It's been traditional for a military officer to be Deputy if the CIA Director is a civilian.